

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the title at page 1, line 1, with

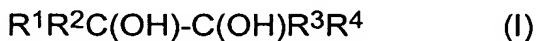
--METHOD FOR THE DIHYDROXYLATION OF
OLEFINS USING TRANSITION METAL CATALYSTS --

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the heading at page 18, line 1, with --WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:--

Claims 1-12 have been canceled in favor of replacement Claims 13-28.

--13. A process for the dihydroxylation of olefins using transition metal catalysts to obtain monofunctional, bifunctional, and/or polyfunctional 1,2-diols of the formula (I)



where

R¹ to R⁴ are each, independently of one another, hydrogen, alkyl, CN, COOH, COO-alkyl, COO-aryl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, O-alkyl, O-aryl, O-CO-aryl, O-CO-alkyl, OCOO-alkyl, N-alkyl₂, NH-alkyl, N-aryl₂, NH-aryl, NO, NO₂, NOH, aryl, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, iodine, Si-alkyl₃, CHO, SO₃H, SO₃-alkyl, SO₂-alkyl, SO-alkyl, CF₃, NHCO-alkyl, CONH₂, CONH-alkyl, NHCOH, NHCOO-alkyl, CHCHCO₂-alkyl, CHCHCO₂H, PO-(aryl)₂, PO(alkyl)₂, PO₃H₂, or PO(O-alkyl)₂, where alkyl is a linear, branched, and/or cyclic aliphatic organic group having from 1 to 18 carbon atoms and aryl is a 5-, 6-, or 7-membered aromatic ring containing from 4 to 14 carbon atoms and from 0 to 3 heteroatoms and is optionally fused, and where the alkyl and/or the aryl group optionally bears up to six substituents selected independently from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, O-alkyl, OCO-alkyl, O-aryl, aryl, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, iodine, OH, NO₂, NO, Si-alkyl₃, CN, COOH, CHO, SO₃H, NH₂, NH-alkyl, N-alkyl₂, PO-alkyl₂, SO₂-alkyl, SO-alkyl, CF₃, NHCO-alkyl, COO-alkyl, CONH₂, CO-alkyl, NHCOH, NHCOO-alkyl, CO-aryl, COO-aryl, PO-aryl₂, PO₃H₂, PO(O-alkyl)₂, and SO₃-alkyl, where alkyl and aryl are as defined above,